

Testimony of John Laniefsky  
Family School Connection Program  
Madonna Place, Inc.  
240 Main Street  
Norwich, CT 06360

Prepared for the Appropriations Committee  
Public Hearing – February 17, 2012  
Public Hearing on the Governor's Proposed Midterm Budget Adjustments

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My name is, John Laniefsky, **I request that you not cut funding to the Family School Connection Program.** I worked with the Family School Connection Program for two and a half years. When I first moved to CT and knew no one, this program was there to help me. This program has supported me and my family in the following ways; it helped me and my wife communicate with my child's teacher without us getting frustrated or wanting to move our child to another school. It has helped our child through helping us deal with our child's emotional and academic concerns. Without the support of this program, we would have not been able to handle going through tough situations and a DCF investigation that was found unsubstantiated. Not only has this program helped us have a closer relationship with school staff and each other it has also helped us have a relationship with the community and others within the community who have similar experiences as me. This program has given me a reason to care and I wouldn't still be in CT. if it wasn't for this program. I feel this program should not be cut but increased to be in more schools to help other families who need support. Please consider my testimony and not cut funding to the Family School Connection Program.

Thank you,  
John Laniefsky